

of Rs. 196.40 crores from the NCCF for the floods of 2005. An amount of Rs. 17.94 crores from the NCCF was released during floods of 2005 on an 'on account' basis. However, based on the approval of the High Level Committee (HLC), an amount of Rs. 12.72 crores was identified as excess against the 'on account' payment. According to MHA, the excess amount is to be adjusted against the State Government's long-term requirement of funds. For the floods of 2006, as against the requirement of Rs. 149.08 crores from the NCCF projected by the State Government, no amount was released from the NCCF as 75% of balance available in CRF of the State for the instant calamity was more than the amount approved by the HLC.

Mainstreaming the Agricultural Technology Management Agency Model

3209. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how and where Government sanctioned amount of Rs. 2260 million for mainstreaming the Agricultural Technology Management Agency model in 252 districts during the Tenth Five Year Plan period, have resulted in an envisaged improvement for the benefit of farmers, especially the small and marginal ones;

(b) whether the streamlining has shown any specific improvement, both being cost-effective and time-effective; and

(c) if so, which are such districts in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture & Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India had launched the Centrally-Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" based on Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) model in May, 2005 with the Tenth Plan outlay of Rs. 2260 million. 252 districts were targeted to be covered under the scheme during the Tenth Plan. The Scheme aims at promoting decentralized and farmer friendly extension system

Salient achievements under the Scheme during the period May 2005 to March, 2007 are given below:

- (i) 262 ATMAs have been established in 27 States and 2 UTs;
- (ii) Strategic Research and Extension Plans (SREPs) have been prepared for 243 ATMA districts;
- (iii) About 7400 Commodity Interest Groups (CIGs) of farmers have been formed;
- (iv) About 10 lakh farmers, including small and marginal farmers, have participated in the following extension activities under the Scheme:

Demonstrations	-	2,08,180
Trainings	-	1,16,150
Exposure visit	-	16,044
Kisan Melas/Goshthis	-	6,65,420

- (v) Involvement of Non-Governmental sector in implementation of extension activities and coverage of women farmers are other promising features of the scheme.

(c) Presently this scheme is in operation in 19 districts in Maharashtra namely: Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Amravati, Akola, Buldhana, Gadchiroli, Hingoli, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Nadurbar, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurga, Sangli, Thane, Washim, Wardha and Yavatmal.

Availability of foodgrains

3210. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the per capita availability of foodgrains has declined during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The per capita availability of foodgrains has been fluctuating during the last five years as may be seen from the table given below: